



On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Chatham County

Chatham County received more than \$75 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Chatham County total.



COPS Hired:
1



Small Business Jobs:
72

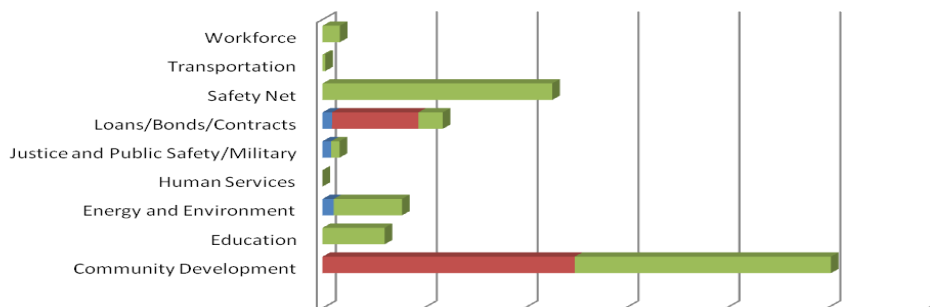


Appliances rebated:
250



Family homes financed:
22

Chatham County Totals



Sum of Prime Awards Sum of Sub-Awards Sum of Loans/Bonds

Chatham County,
pop 49,329 at a glance:

Recovery Act Totals:
Grants: \$41,527,858.71
Loans: \$29,161,242
Bonds: \$4,396,129

Total: \$75,085,229.71



Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

Chatham County schools received \$12 million in education funding, including \$1.7 million in Special Education funds, \$1 million in Title I funds, \$4.3 million in SFSF funds, \$725,000 in Race to the Top funding, and a \$4.3 million bond allocation.



Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Chatham County, 22 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$3 million.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Chatham County retailers sold 250 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



Small Business Assistance

The ARRA provided tax breaks, increased depreciation of business assets, and incentives for hiring for small businesses through the tax law changes found in Part B of the Act. The Recovery Act also established direct aid programs through the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) and US Department of Agriculture (USDA). These programs provided grants, loans and loan guarantees to grant small businesses access to much-needed operational credit during 2009 and 2010.

In Chatham County 6 small businesses received SBA loan guarantees worth almost \$400,000. According to the small businesses receiving these loans, the Recovery Act saved or created 29 jobs. Additionally, the USDA Business and Industry Program provided 1 loan, worth more than \$1.6 million dollars that saved or created 43 jobs.



Farm Assistance

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

In Chatham County, \$378 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



CARS Program

The Car Allowance Rebate Program (CARS), more widely known as the 'Cash-for-Clunkers' program, provided an incentive for drivers of older, energy inefficient vehicles to upgrade to new cars. This program also provided a large economic impact in North Carolina, and North Carolina dealers received more than 18,000 trade-in vehicles through this program. North Carolina Car Dealers sold more than \$400,000,000 worth of new cars (recommended MSRP) through the CARS program. North Carolina drivers will save 172,130 miles per gallon through cars purchased through this program.

In Chatham County, car dealers sold 17 cars worth almost \$430,000 through the ARRA CARS program.



Justice and Public Safety Programs

ARRA increased funding to the federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program (JAG). JAG funds were awarded both as a formula allocation to the State, for \$34.5 million, and grants distributed by the Governor's Crime Commission to various local governments and entities. In addition, \$21,853,798 went to 216 local governments across the state for various purposes in line with the requirements of the act. Finally, there is a federal competitive portion that was open to state or local government applicants.

In Chatham County, the Chatham County Government and the Town of Pittsboro received almost \$50,000 for law enforcement purposes through the JAG program.

Additionally, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established the ARRA Fire Station Construction Grant (FSG). The program was a national competitive program designed to improve firefighter safety and response capability/capacity based on need through the construction, renovation, or modification of fire stations.

In Chatham County, the Pittsboro Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department received a \$600,000 grant to construct a new fire station.

The COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) awards grants to law enforcement agencies to hire and train community policing professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and test innovative policing strategies. COPS funding also provides training and technical assistance to community members and local government leaders and all levels of law. In order to help leverage the efficiency of these programs Governor Perdue set aside additional funding to help pay for uniforms and equipment for local governments who have new COPS funded positions.

In Chatham County, the Town of Pittsboro hire 1 new officer was funded through a COPS Grant. In addition, the Governor's Crime Commission granted the Town of Pittsboro \$4,000 to help outfit and equip the new officer.



Environment and Natural Resources Programs

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

In Chatham County, the Town of Pittsboro received \$2.4 million grant for a clean water project.



Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70 million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

In Chatham County, Piedmont Biofuels, in Pittsboro received a Green Business Fund grant for \$100,000 to integrate a program to monitor heating element in twelve process tanks throughout the facility and eliminate wasteful heat usage from facility, and remove over-sized high consumption pumps and replace them with smaller, more energy efficient logic controlled pumps.



Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Chatham County residents received more than \$17 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$2 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$3 million in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

Chatham County Feature Story

Chatham County Recovers with New Justice Center

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act increased funding to the federal Department of Agriculture's Community Facilities program. The Community Programs provide loans and grants and loan guarantees for a variety of community selected high-impact projects, such as water and environmental projects, as well as community facilities projects. Community facilities projects develop essential community facilities for public use in rural areas and may include hospitals, fire protection, safety, as well as many other community-based initiatives.



In March of 2010 the historic Chatham County Courthouse burned down due to a maintenance accident. Luckily, Chatham County had already made steps to leverage the unique opportunity available in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to secure funds to build a new state-of-the-art LEED Silver Certified Justice Center in Pittsboro.

The federal Department of Agriculture, through the Community Facilities Program is helping to finance the \$25 million project. The Justice Center will be a new 93,000 square foot facility that will accommodate the county judicial system, currently meeting in temporary facilities since the destruction of the historic courthouse. The Center will meet future needs of the system for courtroom space, new offices for court related staff, such as probation services, public defenders, and district attorneys, and record storage requirements.

Commissioner Chairman Brian Bock said of the new proposed courthouse: "When finished, the Judicial Center will meet a backlog of court space needs and provide higher levels of security than we were able to do at the older facilities." Nearly 150 people attended the official groundbreaking of the Chatham County Judicial Center on May 5. The Architect, program manager, and financial officer have already been hired on the project, and the construction is scheduled to be completed in 2012.



Shown from the left are: Commissioner Sally Kost, Public Defender James E. Williams, Clerk of Court Sam Cooper, District Attorney Jim Woodall, Sheriff Richard Webster, District Court Judge Page Vernon, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Carl Fox, Commissioner Mike Cross, Chief Probation Officer Scott Brewer, Resident Superior Court Judge Allen Baddour, Commissioner Chairman Brian Bock, Chief District Court Judge Joseph Buckner, Commissioner Walter Petty, Commissioner Pam Stewart and Barbara Beard-Hinton, Assistant to the State Director for USDA Rural Development.

Appendix, Chatham County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role ⁱ	Prime Amount ⁱⁱ	Unique Sub Awards ⁱⁱⁱ	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) ^{iv}
	Bonds		P			\$4,396,129.00	
	Cash for Clunkers		S		\$74,500.00		
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$3,267,742.00	
Department of Agriculture	Business and Industry Loans	Various	L		\$1,668,020.00		
	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$1,967,763.25		
Department of Energy	Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons	Joint Orange Chatham Community Action Inc, The	S	\$0.00	\$3,103,231.00	\$0.00	
Department of Health and Human Services	Aging Congregate Nutrition Services for States	Chatham County Council On Aging	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Aging Home-Delivered Nutrition Services for States	Chatham County Council On Aging	SV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Department of Justice	Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	Pittsboro, Town Of	P	\$187,883.00		\$0.00	\$187,883.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program / Grants To Units Of Local Government	Chatham, County Of	P	\$44,746.00		\$0.00	\$44,746.00
	Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program/ Grants to States and Territories	Pittsboro, Town Of	S	\$0.00	\$3,950.48	\$0.00	
Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$17,804,784.38		
Environmental Protection Agency	Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds	Pittsboro, Town Of	S	\$0.00	\$2,432,170.00	\$0.00	

Federal Emergency Management Agency	Assistance to Firefighters Grant (ARRA)	Pittsboro Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department	P	\$607,500.00		\$0.00	\$607,500.00
Federal Transit Administration	Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas	Chatham, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$266,450.00	\$0.00	
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P		\$37,350.00	\$0.00	
National Energy Technology Laboratory	State Energy Program	Chatham Environmental Consulting, Llc	S	\$0.00	\$8,250.00	\$0.00	
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education for Homeless Children and Youth, Recovery Act	Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$27,389.00	\$0.00	
	Education Technology State Grants, Recovery Act	Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$27,463.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Chatham Charter School	S	\$0.00	\$164,244.00	\$0.00	
		Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$3,935,874.00	\$0.00	
		Woods Charter School Foundation, Inc.	S	\$0.00	\$267,470.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$726,018.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$947,019.00	\$0.00	
Office of Science	Office of Science Financial Assistance Program	Piedmont Biofuels Industrial LLC	P	\$1,109,219.00		\$0.00	\$1,109,219.00
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education - Preschool Grants, Recovery Act	Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$61,859.00	\$0.00	
	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Chatham Charter School	S	\$0.00	\$57,179.82	\$0.00	
		Chatham County Board Of Education	S	\$0.00	\$1,567,382.54	\$0.00	
		Woods Charter	S	\$0.00	\$94,937.64	\$0.00	

		School Foundation, Inc.					
Rural Housing Service	Community Facilities Loans and Grants		PV	\$0.00	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	
		Chatham, County Of	P	\$0.00		\$9,000,000.00	\$9,000,000.00
				\$0.00		\$9,000,000.00	\$9,000,000.00
				\$0.00		\$7,000,000.00	\$7,000,000.00
Small Business Administration	Loans	22nd Century Kids LLC	L			\$110,000.00	
		Darrell R Boutet	L			\$521,500.00	
		Devine Graphics	L			\$32,000.00	
		Flyleaf Books LLC	L			\$150,000.00	
		Michael R Kotoris	L			\$75,000.00	
		Starrlight Mead LLC	L			\$5,000.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P		\$2,994,250.00		
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - civil program financing only	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Gulf Construction Group, Inc.	P	\$188,700.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		Gulf Group, Inc	P	\$188,700.00		\$0.00	\$188,700.00
		Hall Contracting Corporation	P	\$458,961.78		\$0.00	\$458,961.78
		Tetra Tech, Inc.	P	\$95,792.92		\$0.00	\$95,792.92
				\$8,800.90		\$0.00	\$8,800.90
USACE							
Grand Total				\$2,890,303.60	\$38,637,555.11	\$33,557,371.00	\$27,701,603.60

ⁱ Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

ⁱⁱ Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to www.federalreporting.gov

ⁱⁱⁱ Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

^{iv} Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.